The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, MONDAY, JULY 18, 1870. NO. 18.

THE EUROPEAN WAR

Reported Fight Between the French and Prussians.

3,000 Prussians and 2,000 French Said to Have Been Killed.

The Report Most Certainly a Canard.

Excitement and Enthusiasm in Paris.

Demonstrations Against M. Thiers.

Visit of the French Senate to Napoleon — M. Rouher's Speech.

The French Declaration of War Sent to Prussia.

Chancarnier to be Marshal of France.

The Prussians Very Active, but Say Little.

Bavaria and Wurtemberg Armies to Take the Field at Once.

Popular Demonstration in Florence in Favor of Prussia.

FRANCE.

PARIS, July 17—A. M.—There is a rumor of an encounter having taken place near Forbach, resulting in a loss to the Prussians of 3,000 killed, and the French loss is placed at 2,000 killed. As yet the rumor is wanting in an reliable source.

The Emperor will issue a manifesto to the States of South Germany, warning them of the good will of France.

The war feeling has taken entire control of the people. Yesterday the Duke de Grathmont, after leaving the Senate Chamber, was followed by crowds upon the street with cheers and plaudits, amounting to an ovation. A demonstration was also made in front of the residence of Thiers, to express dissatisfaction at his course in the Corps Legislatif. This was followed by a demonstration in his favor. The latter, the *Journal de France* says, was not respectably reported, and was the work of some unknown creatures.

Accounts from the provinces, yesterday, says the *Soir*, French demonstration was participated in by all ages and classes, with the greatest enthusiasm.

SECOND DESPATCH.—*La Jeune Prussein*, Ministerial organ, publishes the report that the French troops have been recalled from Rome, and denies any intension or recall them.

The Government at Florence and Italy will maintain absolute neutrality as between France and Prussia.

The report that the bridges on the Belgian frontier are destroyed, is contradicted.

The Prussian Government is much concerned for the welfare of Belgium. Prussia desires that the neutrality of Belgium shall be maintained, but not through the fear of Prussia, but held to equal responsibility. The Prussian Minister thinks after all, that England is not prepared to go to the extreme of France. The Chief Cause of France in regard to Belgian neutrality. The most jealous most friendly language toward Spain. It is understood that France will be willing to support the father of the King of Portugal for the Spanish throne.

THIRD DISPATCH.—General Changarnier will be appointed to command the French Reserves, and, if necessary, to command the army.

FOURTH DISPATCH.—A Secretary of the Embassy will start tonight for Berlin, to deliver to the Prussian Government the official copy of the French declaration of war.

The Routine opens a list for a subscription to be opened in favor of the families of the wounded and killed in the present war. The list is headed with a subscription of 100,000 francs.

All the Paris journal send numerous special correspondents to points where military operations are likely to be of interest. Last night, by order of the Government, the military and telegraphic communication between France and Prussia was destroyed.

FIFTH DISPATCH.—*L'Opinion Nationale*, Prince Napoleon's organ, says: "We learn, from good authority, that Italy has tendered to France the assistance of 100,000 men if necessary."

Twenty-three steamship will leave Brest, Cherbourg and Havre for Civita Vecchia, to convey Provisions to Garibaldi to Cochinchina for an offensive.

SIXTH DISPATCH.—Last night M. Rouher announced to the Senate that the Duke Grammont had received from the Prussian Government a positive declaration that the candidature of Prince Leopold would be withdrawn. A force of the enemy had advanced as far as Sierck, in the Province of Lorraine, but had been driven back by the Imperial troops at that point, but retired precipitately.

There is great activity in the fortresses of Rastadt and Germersheim. The soldiers of Baden, Prussian officers, man the ramparts. From this Province officers, men the ramparts. From this Province officers, and all the Prussian troops have been withdrawn from the Rhine to the interior. Demonstrations of the most enthusiastic character continue in favor of war against Prussia.

SEVENTH DISPATCH.—The *Journal Officiel* denies the statement that Prussian troops have entered France. Telegrams on the subject are contradictory, the latest reports being that no force of Prussians had yet crossed the frontier.

A decree has been published calling upon all members of the Garde Mobile and Garde Mobile, of the first active corps of the army, to report for service at the chief towns of their departments, in readiness for active service.

After the session, yesterday, the Senate proceeded in a body to St. Cloud, where they were received by the Emperor and Empress. M. Rouher, President, said: "The Senate thanks the Emperor for the permission of expressing to the Empress the sentiments of devotion with which the consolation, interests to the prestige and security of France, had been unanimously inspired by Prince Napoleon. The Senate will attend the funeral of the late Prince Napoleon, and will be represented on the occasion by a deputation of its members. The military service to the country in the event of war will be rendered by the departure of the Prince Imperial with the army of the Rhine." The Emperor replied in suitable terms to the address of the Senate. All troops in garrison in the country are ordered to be concentrated on the frontier.

A Council of Ministers, the Emperor presiding, was held at 9 o'clock yesterday.

The Chambers will probably dissolve at the end of the present week, after voting the budget.

La Presse says that it is evident that the object of the Duke de Gramont is to secure the peace of Europe through the glory of the arms. Your Majesty, who presided over the Council of Ministers, which decided on having the candidature of Prince Leopold withdrawn, has received from every Power in Europe, except Prussia, the most pacific assurances. Your Majesty, who has received from the Prussian Government the official declaration that the candidature of Prince Leopold is

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MONDAY, JULY 18, 1870.

THE FRENCH RHENISH PROVINCES.

The war between France and Prussia, no matter what the pretext, will be prosecuted by each party for the extension of its national boundary. France wants certain German provinces on the Rhine, and Prussia wishes, in use an American term, to "annex" the German Rhenish provinces now held by France. We have already given a description of the German provinces which the French Emperor covets. Those which Prussia, speaking the voice of all Germany, proposes to recover from France, are the old provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.

Alsace lies between the Rhine on the east, and the Vosges Mountains on the west, and is now divided into two States, Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin, (Upper and Lower Rhine.) The two extend north to Rhenish Bavaria, and south to Switzerland, and contain 9,302 square miles. They make one of the richest and most productive parts of France. They have vast mines, and are a great manufacturing centre. They contain, among other cities, Strasbourg, Colmar, and Mulhausen. At the time of the German conquest the population was 1,049,058, but the Alsacians crossed the Rhine and Germanized all Alsace. It continued part of the German Empire until the peace of Westphalia, when part of it was ceded to France. Subsequently, Louis XIV. seized Strasbourg in 1681, and, by the peace of 1697, the cession of the whole to France was confirmed. The people, however, during the intervening 170 years, have preserved their German nationality, and still speak the German language. All their newspapers are printed in German, as well as in French.

The ancient provinces of Lorraine was an extensive district. Its history dates from the middle of the ninth century, and once included the territory between the Rhine, Schelde, Meuse, and Moselle Rivers. The region now known as Rhenish Prussia was separated from Lorraine in the tenth century, and the remainder was divided and known as Upper and Lower Lorraine. Lower Lorraine became known as Alsace, and, after many Bas-Rhin and Haut-Rhin are separated from the other French departments by the Vosges Mountains. The people of these districts are French in fact, having had the advantage of unmeasurable control in former days. They have all been strongly nursed by France, and a Prussian advance will be obstinately opposed by these cannon-fortified posts.

STRENGTHENING THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

The Chicago *Times* is greatly concerned about the election, next fall, of members of the House of Representatives for the first General Assembly under the new constitution, and in its issue of July 14, under the above heading, asserts that the Democratic party should have decided that the principle of minority representation should go into effect at the 4th of August next. It charges the Republican party with a design to suspend that part of the constitution, and affirms that there is no obstacle in the way of forming fifty-one districts for the election of Representatives on the ninety-eighth next fall. The *Times* thinks there is no discovery that "the Springfield *Journal* agrees with it, and that it will be carried out," by whatever leading the bliss that, after all, the Governor and Secretary of State will not be required to make any appointments for the next election, but that each of the old districts will elect upon the 2d Tuesday, or four ballots. Democrats and the *Times* gravely suggest that it would be entirely good enough for it to "leave it to subject and that," and that it would give a legislative schedule if it could.

Now if the *Times* will examine the provisions of the new constitution in the light of the new apportionment of Senatorial Districts, to be created at the next session of the General Assembly, as provided by Section 6 of Article 4 of the constitution, it will see that there is no ambiguity and need be no fear, clearly the Governor and Secretary have nothing to do with Senatorial Districts, and the next Senate, fifty in number, is to be chosen from the old districts, two from each. How are they to choose the Representatives? Section 12 of the Schedule provides that, immediately after the adoption of the constitution, the Governor and Secretary of State shall proceed to ascertain and apportion the States for members of the *first House of Representatives under this constitution*, to be based on the Federal census of 1870, if completed in time; if not, then upon the State census of 1865; and in accordance with the principles established in the Legislative article—that is, districts are to be formed in the ratio of population, and with fractions to be adjusted upon the principles laid down in said article.

Section 14 of the Schedule further provides that, in making such apportionment, the districts shall be regularly numbered, "commencing with Alexander County as No. 1, and proceeding thence northwardly through the State, and terminating with the county of Cook; and no county shall be numbered more than one district, except the county of Cook, which shall constitute three districts, each embracing the territory contained in the now existing Representative District of said county."

These are the specific directions of the new constitution in relation to the formation of Senatorial Districts and districts from which the next House of Representatives is to be chosen. Nor is there any pretence for saying that we have left the mode and most productive parts of France. They have vast mines, and are a great manufacturing centre. They contain, among other cities, Strasbourg, Colmar, and Mulhausen. At the time of the German conquest the population was 1,049,058, but the Alsacians crossed the Rhine and Germanized all Alsace. It continued part of the German Empire until the peace of Westphalia, when part of it was ceded to France. Subsequently, Louis XIV. seized Strasbourg in 1681, and, by the peace of 1697, the cession of the whole to France was confirmed. The people, however, during the intervening 170 years, have preserved their German nationality, and still speak the German language. All their newspapers are printed in German, as well as in French.

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These provinces include the cities of Metz, Nancy, and Epinal. Metz is an extensive and fortified city on the Moselle, at its confluence with the Seille. The fortifications are very extensive. It has two military academies for artillery and engineers, and schools for the practice of these arts. It has also a powder mill, extensive barracks, and one of the finest hospitals in Europe. The business of the city is manufacturing, especially of hats and shirts. The city has a population of 56,006. Nancy is another very old town. It is a seat of learning. Manufactures are extensive, the principal of which is the embroidery of cambric and muslin goods. Charles the Bold was killed at the siege of Nancy in 1477. The telegrams from the seat of war indicate that the French army will concentrate at Metz, which is in the Department of Moselle. The Prussian advance crosses the Rhine at Fischarb.

The city of Epinal is the capital of the Department of Vosges, and is a manufacturing town of 11,000 inhabitants.

Strasbourg is a fortified city of the first class, and the capital of the Bas-Rhin department from Paris by rail. The fortifications are very strong. The Rhine is bridged at this place. It has a military school. It has extensive commerce, large manufactures, and is connected by rail with all parts of North and Central Europe. The population is 58,000. The citadel of Strasbourg is a pentagon. It is one of the oldest cities in Europe.

Colmar is the chief seat of the cotton manufactures of France.

The population of the three French Rhenish departments was, in 1865, as follows:

Bas-Rhin	577,264
Haut-Rhin	515,000
Moselle	415,000
Meurthe	415,000
Vosges	400,000
Total	2,322,264

The increased population in all probability is not less than 3,000,000.

It is probable that the first clash of arms will be along the Rhine in these provinces or in the Prussian provinces on the other side of the river. It is understood that, of late years, France has been strengthening her fortifications all along the Rhine, and that at this time, the following towns and cities are defended by strong works, and garrisoned with forces equal to any ordinary siege: Strasbourg, Colmar, Schlestadt, New-Brisach, Huningen, Metz, Thionville, Bitche, and Longwy, which are on the Rhine, and near Metz: Bas-Rhin and Haut-Rhin are separated from the other French departments by the Vosges Mountains. The passes of these mountains are few in number, having the advantage of unmeasurable control in former days. They have all been strongly nursed by France, and a Prussian advance will be obstinately opposed by these cannon-fortified posts.

THE FARMERS AND THE WAR.

The prospect of an increased demand in Europe for American breadstuffs, in consequence of the war, is advancing prices in all the leading grain markets, at the West, New-York and Liverpool. There is little doubt that quotations will be over 1 higher than at present, as the recent rise in the currency quotations of our exportable products is but little more than the difference in the gold premium. If the war in Europe should prove to be of considerable duration, wheat may touch $1.75 and corn $1.10 per bushel, in this market.

But it should not be forgotten that the probabilities are that there will be but a brief contest. Modern war is so terribly destructive and expensive, that few nations which have large exhausting debts, can indulge in the luxury for more than a few months, without being brought to the verge of bankruptcy. The war for the suppression of the rebellion lasted rather less than four years, yet the South, which had no debt to begin with, was virtually beggared long before the end of that time, as much as the longer struggle that has befallen in what are properly entitled to be called the days of modern warfare. A nation which is overloaded with debt at the beginning of the contest, as France is, can not stand the way of forming fifty-one districts for the election of Representatives on the ninety-eighth next fall. The *Times* thinks there is no discovery that "the Springfield *Journal* agrees with it, and that it will be carried out," by whatever leading the bliss that, after all, the Governor and Secretary of State will not be required to make any appointments for the next election, but that each of the old districts will elect upon the 2d Tuesday, or four ballots. Democrats and the *Times* gravely suggest that it would be entirely good enough for it to "leave it to subject and that," and that it would give a legislative schedule if it could.

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These are the specific directions of the new constitution in relation to the formation of Senatorial Districts and districts from which the next House of Representatives is to be chosen. Nor is there any pretence for saying that we have left the mode of doing this open to any party, or in any way abrogated or annulled. Therefore, how idle it is to say that no apportionment of Representative Districts is to be made by the Governor and Secretary. It will be observed that, under these specific directions, Alexander County is to form one district, and that the three districts now existing under the act of 1861, in Cook County, are to remain intact, and that those three Representative Districts are made up of territory and populations wholly different from the two Senatorial Districts for Cook County, created by the same act. And yet the *Times* gravely supports the construction of the Republican party that the Governor cannot divide the State into fifty-one Representative Districts so as to keep the three districts intact! It might as well say that Longley, which are on the Rhine, and near Metz: Bas-Rhin and Haut-Rhin are separated from the other French departments by the Vosges Mountains. The passes of these mountains are few in number, having the advantage of unmeasurable control in former days. They have all been strongly nursed by France, and a Prussian advance will be obstinately opposed by these cannon-fortified posts.

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THE NEW BANKING BILL.

The Comptroller of the Currency has made an estimate of the distribution of the $54,000,000 of bank notes under the new act, based on the census of 1860. By this estimate, Illinois will only receive $1,079,572; but as the act requires the distribution to be made under the census of 1870, Illinois will get a share of perhaps $1,800,000. But when the $25,000,000 of circulation is withdrawn from the Eastern banks and redistributed in the West and South, Illinois will come in for a handsome share of that, or $1,500,000 of it, making, in all, in the vicinity of $3,000,000 of additional bank circulation, which will add four to five millions to the present small amount of National banking in this State. There will be always competition for the additional bank circulation in the Western States.

The following named States and Territories will be entitled to the $54,000,000 additional circulation, according to the census of 1860; under the act, so far the portion below named:

Maine	$ 1,000,000	North Carolina	$ 1,000,000
New-Hampshire	1,000,000	South Carolina	1,000,000
Vermont	1,000,000	Georgia	1,000,000
Massachusetts	1,000,000	Florida	1,000,000
Rhode Island	1,000,000	Alabama	1,000,000
Connecticut	1,000,000	Mississippi	1,000,000
New-York	1,000,000	Louisiana	1,000,000
New-Jersey	1,000,000	Texas	1,000,000
Pennsylvania	1,000,000	Arkansas	1,000,000
Delaware	1,000,000	Tennessee	1,000,000
Maryland	1,000,000	Kentucky	1,000,000
Virginia	1,000,000	Missouri	1,000,000
West-Virginia	1,000,000	Illinois	1,000,000
Ohio	1,000,000	Michigan	1,000,000
Indiana	1,000,000	Wisconsin	1,000,000
Total	$ 54,000,000		

It will be observed that Illinois' proportion comes in for any share in this distribution, showing that they had already received a larger proportion under the act of 1863, than any of the Western States. But both these States will receive a large portion of the undistributed $18,000,000.

It is the Southern States that will obtain the first share of this new distribution, as they were almost entirely excluded from sharing any under the above estimates, about $45,000,000, and they will also get not less than $10,000,000 of the redistributed circulation. The West will obtain about $14,000,000 of the latter, and only about $5,000,000 of the former, making $20,000,000 in all.

California comes in for a million and three-quarters under the first distribution, and will receive about $2,000,000 under the National Banking act of 1863; but we venture the prediction that they will not repeal the bills for this time, but will promptly accept the quota of the Union now cry for want of facility or any other reason. The sentiment prospers of a well-to-do and the sentiment prospers of a well-to-do and the sentiment prospers of a well-to-do and the

WASHINGTON.

End of the Session.

Failure of Parties.

Norton Dead.

Politics and Investigations.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, July 16.

To-morrow is the last day of Congress. For this end of all other blessings, we return thanks.

THE LAST DAYS OF CONGRESS.

It has been a dry, unprofitable, shrivelling session, with all the gas at the beginning and a little soda water at the end. Every day's proceedings are but a mere fac simile of the last, so that Congress is a prey to its own defective organization and rules of procedure. The committee work, which is the vital part of Congress, is delayed by assembly, and public business tumbles into the general chamber like a man who has just got out of bed, and reels, half dressed, into a ball-room. The consequence is that every body on each committee who has neglected his duty in the committee-room, insists upon making a fifteen speech before the House, and the debate, as the Globe will attest, drags down with debate, and heaps of words, replies and explanations, and, after a remarkably fluent session, the work is taken behind the door in the disposition of the lobby.

To amend all this, it is necessary that the rules for the beginning of the session should be changed—that a week, instead of the old rule of five committee three or four hours for steady work in the cool and luminous evening-time—then business will pour down like a river, and be arranged, and with no one speech from the majority and one from the minority, setting forth the conclusions arrived at by the committee of Congress can vote correctly. It has occurred to me, and it has been a subject of conversation among patriotic men during the whole session, that a Reform Convention, on the plan of the Constitutional Convention of Illinois, might meet this fall, and suggest to Congress and the people a thorough reform, not, indeed, in the ambitious mode of legislation, but in many other matters, where Congress is too much interested to advise it.

For example, the civil service of the country is in so deplorable a condition, that the weakest part of the American nation has come to be its government. The average congressman is inferior to the average educated citizen; the government clerk is not equal in capacity to the merchant's clerk; the government is not equal to the merchant; and for twenty years, at every session, popular demand of the nation increases, public business grows more angled and confounded, and the public service more inefficient. There is no profession in America, and a Congress ever so well disposed, finds it impossible to det act and defeat the machinations of those shrewd schemers. This fact shows the emergency of the speculators to the legislature. Very many Congressmen are hardworking, faithful men, but they find themselves baffled by the nature of the rules, enforcements and habits of their colleagues, and the bad organization against them. Some part of the sessions are of far more consequence to the interests than any record of Congressmen that can be found.

NOTICES.

I see that you published the short day an article from a Lancaster paper, printed in the garden country of Pennsylvania, and by the grace of Heaven the home of Thad. Stevens, Jr., Esq., Editor of the *Express*, was his personal organ, and says it is being berated by the three bloaters of Philadelphia, North American and Inquirer, for moderation on the question of the tariff. I wrote to you many months ago, there is in this session capable of apprehending the ingenuity of the tariff in Pennsylvania, the agricultural element of that State far outnumbers every other, and it is remarkable that one of the ablest towns in the commonwealth, and one of the most conservative towns in the State, should contain a newspaper, bold enough to question the position of Morrill, Cake, and Company. The tariff issue has been talked about and debated for a year, and yet it has not come to its inevitable fate.

It is said that the Democrats are too timid and ineffectual parties who must save him to permit themselves to act. Now, if it be the fact that the Democrats are timid, it is equally true that the Republicans are timid, and the more talk we have about it the stronger it will be.

William B. Thomas, of Philadelphia, has also been home. Ex-Reps have said all. The intelligence of the country is prepared for this radical change in our entire political economy. What right has the State of Pennsylvania to the monopoly of Virginia, liberal and independent, "when it is the bulwark of dependence, and its slaves, bound against the national capital like an old, spavined horse?" Is it moral saying a blushing poet for fear of falling down?

NOMINATIONS.

Judge Bond, of Baltimore, has been confirmed, after a hot fight, as Circuit Judge. He is one of the sons of Dr. Bond, who used to edit the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, the great official Methodist organ, published in the city of New York, and is also one of the most plausible and interesting conversationalists, even in Maryland, where there are more agreeable men than in all the rest of the Middle States. He and Judge Bond have mixed up in local police politics in Baltimore, and Cresswell's party has of late pressed him hard to the wall. This appointment is a political reward and not a piece of fame. I forbear to express opinion about it, further than to say that Grant has at last nominated one intelligible person.

Two other vast exemplifications of justice, Oliver and Humphreys, sit upon the bench of the Federal District. The District bench has extensive jurisdiction, and considerable power to mix in politics, because it is the nearest court to Congress. It tried Sickles and Surratt, and it used to be considered a scriptorious and well-administered court; but of late it has degenerated to be a bench of evil and good. Carries, as the head of it, is a man of great learning and purity of justice, and he has a large head, about equally filled with wisdom and prejudice, but I think that, if he were less of a personal partizan, he would be a very good Judge. He is, however, a man of such unmercantile mien of high character, The third Judge, Olin, is a learned constitutional, who has been in politics as a leader of the Democracy, and Congress ought to take action upon his delivery of some responsible, Bohemian way of doing things. To appear before him is to take your case before an ecclesiastical council. The two new Judges, just appointed by Grant, appear to be unobjectionable men, of a par with the average character of the Federal Judges. Their appointment is usually very popular in the District, and one of his deeds was to sentence a prize-fighter and his principal to the Penitentiary. Judge Bond has had a long term of service, and the most conspicuous for the last twelve years, and the most of its members have no higher principle than stubborn resistance to whatever the other party can do, good or evil; and that which is good is more opposed than that which is evil, in the chance being against the good because it might recommend itself to the people. The sale of the time, the wishes of the country, and the practical rights of things have nought with their assistance and surly opposition. The Republican party, on the other hand, by a long lenness of power, and by necessary to its original convictions, has become angry with corruption and jobbery. Every pore of it perspires with scandal and gluttony. Between these two organizations the nation of great men to which we belong is fast becoming in fringing upon the moralities. The most conspicuous party in the nation—the men who are acquainted with these parties and who deserve them—to step out and indicate its wishes?

DEATH OF NORTON.

A Senator, about whom we know very little, has just died—Norton, of Minnesota. He looked to be a strong, long-lived gentleman, and, although he was 61 years of age, he appeared to be not a day over 50. He was tall, and looked at his pale face—those white locs was the ornament of his head—and his dark eyes, which took fashions strength from their dark colored eye and hair—weight have remarked that he looked like a consumptive. He had not been married more than a year, and to a rich Baltimore lady name Gilmore, subscriptions began to annoy him soon after his marriage. He was in the habit of riding almost every night to Baltimore and back—a distance of about 80 miles a day. But, after a time, he was compelled to take lodgings in Washington, and went home to Minnesota once a week. Norton was born in Canada, educated at Kenyon College, and he taught in the Maxican war. He was a traveller to a considerable extent, and he removed to Minnesota in 1855, where he has resided. He was returned to the United States Senate, after some experience in both branches of the State Legislature. While never a forward or noisy member, he was considered a valuable man in any known emergency. Norton's accidental career was not without influence. He was elected as a sort of Republican, but he refused to be yoked with his party up to the day of his death, seeming to fall naturally back into a conservative position, and yet, while discharging his duties fairly, he was not a partizan. He was a man of high character, and would not half a quarrel with any other Senator. He has no other. He is regarded as a man with considerable property, and, as he kept a cigar shop, he alone to manage the affairs of a small estate handsomely.

This letter, like the last, is anonymous, and yet Mr. Rout well has a little respect for the President of the United States, or for the Secretary of State, or for the Attorney-General, or he would not have written letters to the Government Printer as if they carried reason with them. Here is another signed "Republican," which Rogerboy publishes about himself:

"Mr. Casey is poltroonously unfit for the position he holds, and only postponed it until any other community would. Any such furious it is openly charged that the Secretary of State has declared Travis Clerk shows that Mr. Casey was guilty of either complicity with those frauds, or else that he lacks the requisite capacity for the discharge of the duties of the office of Collector of the port. And now, Mr. Secretary, will you the gentlemen of not only the commercial men of this city, if you exercise your influence (which we know is considerable) in bringing about a change?

Another letter from the "Louisiana Press Association," whatever that may be, says that:

"Mr. Casey is a disgrace to the port of New Orleans, during the past twelve months, has proved himself incompetent, and that all the duties of his high and responsible office, and is the most plausible and interesting conversationalist, even in Maryland, where there are more agreeable men than in all the rest of the Middle States. He and Judge Bond have mixed up in local police politics in Baltimore, and Cresswell's party has of late pressed him hard to the wall. This appointment is a political reward and not a piece of fame. I forbear to express opinion about it, further than to say that Grant has at last nominated one intelligible person.

It is reported that a detachment of the reporter has been sent forward by a short cut to Grand Rapids and Detroit.

We had a pleasant evening of intertwining, last evening, Mr. Frank L. Hunt, a very intelligent gentleman, who has just arrived from the Red River country, and who, after a residence there of over nine years is in our city, en route for Detroit, his native place. His account of the present condition of the settlement agrees with what we have already heard. The advance of the troops has given courage and confidence to the loyal settlers, both French and English, in proportion as it has lessened the following and curtailed the swagger of Messrs. Donahue and Riel. It seems as if all the Red River folk, who had become looked forward to the chance of his being in a more place, at the head of the military department of Dakota, and that he would be constantly prepared for flight. He says, too, that there are those who must not be left to their tender mercies, and, if he falls into their hands, they will fall with him.

Mr. Hunt is of the opinion that as to the causes of the late rising of Red River, and states that to person of intelligence at the scene of action can doubt that the whole affair was a conspiracy in the hands of a strong and wily controlling power, for Donahue and Riel were the tools which could be seen a few white powder, like speechless, dumb creatures. Mrs. Donahue herself was taken ill, and a neighbor sent for the junior Dr. Weirich to attend her. When the latter arrived, she expressed herself as unwillingness to take it, asserting that she would not live to see the next day, and she was right. Yesterday evening Dr. Weirich was again requested to attend her, and was told that Donahue and Hardy were at the agreement to attend a patient at Council Bluffs, which would take them away for a few hours. They have very politicked the senate not to confirm him. The other new Judge, Judge Bond, is a Methodist, and has expressed himself for deeds of derring-do. He has been on the bench for two or three months, and one of his deeds was to sentence a prize-fighter and his principal to the Penitentiary for a time afterward, when the prisoner had got to jail, and everybody had forgot about it. Humphreys is a Democrat, and has been a good deal talked about for Governor of Tennessee, but he is not a man of much political power. He is a man of such unmercantile mien of high character, The third Judge, Olin, is a learned constitutional, who has been in politics as a leader of the Democracy, and Congress ought to take action upon his delivery of some responsible, Bohemian way of doing things. To appear before him is to take your case before an ecclesiastical council. The two new Judges, just appointed by Grant, appear to be unobjectionable men, of a par with the average character of the Federal Judges. Their appointment is usually very popular in the District

THE LAW COURTS.

Collisions on the Lake and in the College Race.

Important Decisions by Judges Blodgett and Davis.

The Inheritance of an Illegitimate Brother.

United States Circuit Court.

COLLISION—A SUNKEN LOSS.

Elisha B. Dean et al. v. Propeller Dean Richmond et al.—Libel for collision on the 11th inst. on the lake. 10th, were owners of the schooner J. Bostwick, and bound to Chicago, and the propeller Dean Richmond was proceeding down the lake, about ten miles from the West shore, the wind from west or west, to eleven, going south, when the schooner was seen to be coming up from the south, with the canal in collision with the propeller Dean Richmond coming up the lake. The collision occurred about 4 o'clock P.M. The propeller was going at the rate of ten miles an hour, and the schooner at the same speed. The propeller struck the schooner, the propeller striking nearly amidships, and cutting her down to the water's edge. The schooner filled with water and sank in about ten feet water. The propeller then backed off from the schooner, the propeller was slightly damaged, and the schooner was a total loss. The main controversy turned on whether the schooner, up to the time of the collision, changed her course, and the proposition was that she did change her course, and this brought about the collision. For the schooner it was contended that she did not change her course until a collision being imminent, an order was given to change, but not execution before the collision had occurred. The court found this latter position sustained by the evidence, and that it was the duty in such case of the schooner that sailing vessel, from the moment she was thrown into the case by evidence tending to show that there were some propellers coming up, and that she was bound to do something to avoid the collision, and that if she changed her course, but the Court thought if she had been properly kept in hand the danger would not have arisen, and it would not excuse the propeller for not attending to the duty which was most imperative and must be kept, which was to avoid the vessel in close proximity.

Judge Drummond affirmed the decree.

Judge Davis decided the appeal, as follows:

The rules of navigation require when a sailing vessel and steamer are approaching each other so as to involve danger of collision, the former must decide, that the sailing vessel must keep her course as near as may be, and the latter by altering her course as may be necessary to avoid her. As the steamer is the more manageable of the two, and as a collision may occur, the steamer is prima facie in fault, and the burden of proof is upon her to show that the collision was occasioned by the inevitable accident, or by the fault of the sailing vessel. Decree pronounced, and appeal was taken.

Circuit Court.

JAMES M. BARKER v. OTHO L. TRAY. Action of ejectment. Verdict and judgment for plaintiff for $10,000.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

The Junior Championship Tournament—Games in Chicago and Elsewhere.

THE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

THE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

The junior tournament for the championship of the Northwest commences one week from to-day. The Excelsior Club, of Chicago, and the Forest City Club, of Rockford, will be the contestants. Both clubs are in good condition, and have been practicing for the past two weeks. The Excelsior Club will be represented by its strongest nine, and there is no doubt but they will be victorious. The Rockford Club will be represented by a nine only. The Excelsior Club will be represented by a nine only. The Excelsior Club will be represented by a nine only. The Excelsior